



## Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 14

**Meeting Date:** 05-15-07

**Meeting Location:** Bartholomew Co. DCS Conference Room

**Council Members Present:** Ruth Alewine, Mark Lloyd, Cindy Doyle-Winslow, Heather Mollo, Dennis Carmichael, Jack Tandy, Laura Gentry, & Susie Hodnett

**Council Members Absent:** LaDonna Simpson, Helen Jackson

**Others in Attendance:** Heather Barrett, The Villages; Kris Meltzer, DCS; Jason Miller, Youth Connections; Sarah Sullivan & Toni Rose, Fountain Consulting; Janice Bullman, Family Services; April Windisch, Kate Garrity & Carla Davis, Community Partners; Dawn Wilson, DCS; Diane Parsons, Family Care

<b>Meeting Minutes</b>
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**Meeting Called to Order at:** 8:40

1. **First Order of Business Summary of Discussion:** Welcome & Agenda overview.
2. **Second Order of Business Summary of Discussion:** Ruthi asked for feedback by members that attended the Dr. Toni Laskey Training. Helen Jackson's comments were shared with members via Christine as to how excellent the facility was, Dr. Laskey was a wonderful trainer, if this training comes again to make two (2) days out of it, and maybe get her to do an ongoing training for DCS & Law Enforcement, which would be worthwhile. Other members commented that it was an excellent training, that Dr. Laskey is able & willing to training smaller communities, her perspective for children. Ruthi commented that the information Dr. Laskey gave on how to do proper exams, especially sexual assault. Laura commented that it is important to send to Riley or a hospital that has proper equipment.
3. **Third Order of Business Summary of Discussion:** Ruthi announced that she will be returning to Region 14 and would be able to devote more time to the RSC Strategic Plan. In discussion about the Plan Laura mentioned working on foster parenting recruitment. Ruthi asked members to pass along

any names that could help with recruiting foster parents. Cindy mentioned that she would be getting back to members on Initiative #4- sex offender/drop out ratio and developmental disabilities. Ruthi mentioned that each region is working on a strategic plan of their own, setting objectives based on data reports on the outcomes that the State hopes to see improves as a result of practice reform efforts. Each Region develops a plan to improve 3 to 5 outcome areas. When that Plan has been approved, Ruthi will bring it to the RSC so that we can see how it and the RSC plan can work together.

**Fourth Order of Business Summary of Discussion:** Karla gave members a report on Community Partners. This included introductions of new employees. April Winnisch for Johnson County will be taking her first engaging today. Kate Garrity for Jackson County will also work with Jennings County. The Steering committee is going well, has been meeting every month, will be changing to bi-monthly. Karla handed out an expenditure report to members. Karla mentioned that any unspent monies will move over to next budget. Karla mentioned to members that they have had to purchase bus passes and diapers. Then asked members if they should put an amount per family that could be spent on them. Maybe a reward system? Karla is looking for grants to put money aside for toys & clothes. They have purchased lice kits. Ruthi asked if Karla knew what other regions were using per family. Karla commented that Region 13 was at \$300.00 per referral. There is \$17,000.00 in contractual services that have not been used yet. Could use for services. Karla mentioned that one family have had three (3) bus passes and one family that have lots of dirty clothes to be washed. Judge Tandy asked how many families you plan on serving in a year. Karla commented that number would be around 136. Judge Lloyd mentioned that Karla should take to the amount of money per family to steering committee than bring back to RSC. Judge Lloyd mentioned that there may be families that will not need money. Karla handed out a tracking report to members. Dennis asked what struggles they were seeing. Karla mentioned drug abuse and homelessness. She said it is difficult trying to get the people & community back together after bridges have been burned. Dennis asked if Karla was tracking the breakdown per county to see where this shows what the needs are per county. Shana mentioned that Jennings Co. has a bus route coming. Karla mentioned that they received 80 referrals in December with 31 active, 14 engaging, 11 discharging. Some unsuccessful due to moved, disengaged. Out of the 80 referrals, 21 failed to engage. Karla said that it is more difficult for them to engage when the referrals have not already been introduced to the program by providers. It matters whether they are ready or not. If families feel forced, CPCS may get them engaged but may not keep them. Judge Lloyd asked about the variances in the salaries. Karla commented

that they are not fully up to what they are budgeted for because of the various dates that liaisons have begun to work. Judge Mollo suggested that maybe they could offer motivational training for families. She also asked Karla if they felt like they were getting busy. Karla commented that yes, they are ok with caseload now, but will be on a waiting list soon. Karla also mentioned one way to not have a huge waiting list is to refer to another program. Maximum cases for a liaison are 12 to 15 cases. State wants to leave a little room for triage. Karla handed out a report from Partnertude, their data reporting system and an information about Circle of Parents, a program that parents run to support each other. Children's Bureau is considering facilitating this program for CPCS. Karla's vision is to be a program for all of Children's Bureau. The cost is \$500.00 per state for training, which is the cost to train facilitators. Karla stated that this program would be available to all clients served by CPCS, at no cost and with child care provided.

**5. Fifth Order of Business Summary of Discussion:** Senate Bill 328 did not pass. Early Intervention Team is still in statue and needs to operate. They will share their work with RSC and RSC will still have to approve use of funds. Dennis had suggested a couple of meetings ago that the State do a survey of RSC members to find out how well the RSC is working, the areas the members feel need improvement, etc. Ruthi had taken this suggestion to the Executive Team of DCS and a survey is being prepared and will be emailed to all RSC members.

**6. Sixth Order of Business Summary of Discussion:** Ruthi asked if there was any new business for discussion. Judge Tandy raised a question as to the Child and Family Team Meetings concept. If parents are not together, it is possible that mother would not choose to have dad on team. Ruthi commented that parent can exclude anyone including CASA and/or other parent, however if that happens and anyone needed by statute for the case planning conference is not a part of the CFTM, then a separate case plan conference must be held.

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**Next Meeting Date, Location and Time:**

June 19, 2007

July 17, 2007

August 21, 2007

Bartholomew County DCS Conference room, 8:30 – 10:00

**Meeting Adjourned at:** 9:34 a.m.